GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2419
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
OPERATION OF AI FLEET TO GULF ROUTES
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft received by Air India from Boeing;

(b) whether all the new aircraft received by AI is going to be operated in Gulf routes by Air India Express;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the difference between dreamliners and Boeing 737-800; and

(e) the manner in which AI is going to be competitive with other private players to the Gulf sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): Air India and its subsidiary, Air India Charters Limited have placed an order with Boeing for 68 new aircraft of which delivery of 6 B737-800 aircraft has so far been taken.

(b) and (c): These aircraft are being, presently, operated to the Gulf and South East Asia.

(d): The `dreamliner` is a nomenclature used by Boeing for its new technology B787 wide bodied aircraft, having seating capacity of 286 seats.

The B737-800 aircraft on the other hand is a narrow-body aircraft with a seating capacity of 186 (all economy class seats).

(e): At present, the Gulf routes are served only by the public carriers.